Daily collection in the Arukutty Chowkey.

421. ✻ MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP (*Ambalapuzha* cum *Shertala*): Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the distance between Arukutty Excise Office and Shertala Sub-treasury;

(*b*) whether the daily collection in the Arukutty Chowkey has to be remitted daily in the treasury:

(*c*) how the daily remittance is made:

(*d*) whether there is an escort while money is taken to the treasury;

(*e*) whether any allowance is given to the escort now;

(*f*) whether any allowance was given at any time before;

(*g*) if so, why that allowance was stopped subsequently:

(*h*) whether there is motor service between Shertala and Arukutty now; and

(*i*) whether it is not possible to carry the money-load in bus with bus-warrant to the escort?

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR (*a*) 14 1/2 miles.

(*b*) Yes.

(*c*) The collections are sent every day from the Chowkey to the Shertala Sub-Treasury, in charge of Petty Officers and peons.

(*d*) Yes.

(*e*) No.

(*f*) Yes. The allowance was given for about one year during 1106 and 1107.

(*g*) For administrative reasons.

(*h*) Yes.

(*i*) Yes.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: May I know from Government, for how many days in a month the escort who carries money for remittance in Shertala sub-treasury, has to walk a distance of 29 miles daily?

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: This has to be done every working day.

MR. N. NARAYANA KURUP: Then may I know, is it not cruel to make him walk that distance daily without any allowance?

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR: Answer to part (f) may be perused. But I may state for the information of the member that a provision is proposed to be made in the Budget for 1116 for meeting such expenses.

Arukutty Chowkey and Alleppey Customs.

422. ✻ MR N. NARAYANA KURUP Will the Government be pleased to state:

(*a*) the working hours of the Land Customs;

(*b*) the working hours of the Arukutty Chowkey;

(*c*) the working hours of the Alleppey Customs;

(*d*) whether steam launches and canoes have to be inspected at night at Chowkeys;

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(*e*) the revenue of the Arukutty Chowkey ;

(*f*) the revenue of the Alleppey Customs ;

(*g*) whether the Alleppey Customs staff is given any overtime allowance ;

(*h*) whether the same or any overtime allowance is given to the Chowkey staff at Arukutty ; and

(*i*) if the answer to part (*h*) is in the negative, why it is not given ?

MR. M. K. NILAKANTA AIYAR : (*a*) The working hours of the Land Customs Houses are from 7 A. M. to 6. P. M, daily, but duty will not be levied after 5 P. M.

(*b*) From 7 A. M. to 6 P M. as in other Land Customs Houses.

(*c*) The working hours of the Alleppey Sea Customs are from 9-30 A. M. to 4 P. M.

(*d*) Yes ; but only Steam launches and Canoes carrying passengers.

(*e*) The revenue of the Arukutty Chowkey for the year 1114 is Rs. 6,67,006-0-0 under customs and Rs. 5,58,582-19-14 under tobacco.

(*f*) The revenue of the Sea Customs, Alleppey, for the year 1114 is Rs. 10,38,574-7-8.

(*g*) Yes.

(*h*) No.

(*i*) The nature of the work in Land Customs Houses is such that all normal work is done only during prescribed office hours.

No duty is collected after 5 P. M. except on small quantities of goods carried as personal luggage by passengers. Nor are big consignments of goods (except perishables) examined and passed at night at Customs Houses.

In the Arukutty Chowkey, no overtime fee or allowance is given to any officer posted for duty during night, because such officers as are posted for duty during night are given sufficient relief from work during day time.

Enhancement of the rate of State Transport fare.

423. * **MR. S. GOVINDA PILLAI** (*Chirayinkil* cum *Nedumangad*) : Will the Government be pleased to state :

(*a*) whether the State Transport Department propose to enhance the rate of bus fare ;

(*b*) whether the present rates are higher than the rates charged when the services were private-owned ;

(*c*) whether the number of buses running in each line are lesser than the number when the services were private owned ; and

(*d*) whether the Government have considered the hardship and inconvenience to the public, by the lesser number of buses and higher rate of fare ?

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